

## **25.0 INDEMNIFICATION**

**25.1** Each Party agrees to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party from and against all losses, claims, demands, damages, expenses, suits or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, including, but not limited to, costs and attorneys' fees (collectively, a "Loss"), (a) whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person, relating to personal injury to or death of any person, or for loss, damage to, or destruction of real and/or personal property, whether or not owned by others, incurred during the term of this Agreement and to the extent proximately caused by the acts or omissions of the indemnifying Party, regardless of the form of action, or (b) suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by its own customer(s) against the other Party arising out of the other Party's provision of services to the indemnifying Party under this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing indemnification, nothing in this such Section 25. shall affect or limit any claims, remedies, or other actions the indemnifying Party may have against the indemnified Party under this Agreement, any other contract, or any applicable Tariff(s), regulations or laws for the indemnified Party's provision of said services.

**25.2** The indemnification provided herein shall be conditioned upon:

(a) The indemnified Party shall promptly notify the indemnifying Party of any action taken against the indemnified Party relating to the indemnification.

(b) The indemnifying Party shall have sole authority to defend any such action, including the selection of legal counsel, and the indemnified Party may engage separate legal counsel only at its sole cost and expense.

(c) In no event shall the indemnifying Party settle or consent to any judgment pertaining to any such action without the prior written consent of the indemnified Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(d) The indemnified Party shall, in all cases, assert any and all provisions in its Tariffs that limit liability to third parties as a bar to any recovery by the third party claimant in excess of such limitation of liability.

(e) The indemnified Party shall offer the indemnifying Party all reasonable cooperation and assistance in the defense of any such action.

## **26.0 LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

**26.1** Except as may be provided pursuant to Section 27 below, the liability of either Party to the other Party for damages arising out of failure to comply with a direction to install, restore or terminate facilities; or out of failures, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or defects occurring in the course of furnishing any services, arrangements, or facilities hereunder shall be determined in accordance with the terms of the applicable tariff(s) of the providing Party. In the event no tariff(s) apply, the providing Party's liability shall not exceed an amount equal to the pro

rata monthly charge for the period in which such failures, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects occur. Recovery of said amount shall be the injured Party's sole and exclusive remedy against the providing Party for such failures, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects.

**26.2** Neither Party shall be liable to the other in connection with the provision or use of services offered under this Agreement for indirect, incidental, consequential, reliance or special damages, including (without limitation) damages for lost profits (collectively, "Consequential Damages"), regardless of the form of action, whether in contract, warranty, strict liability, or tort, including, without limitation, negligence of any kind, even if the other Party has been advised of the possibility of such damages; provided, that the foregoing shall not limit a Party's obligation under Section 25.

**26.3** The Parties agree that neither Party shall be liable to the customers of the other Party in connection with its provision of services to the other Party under this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to create a third party beneficiary relationship between the Party providing the service and the customers of the Party purchasing the service. In the event of a dispute involving both Parties with a customer of one Party, both Parties shall assert the applicability of any limitations on liability to customers that may be contained in either Party's applicable Tariff(s).

## **27.0 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES**

**27.1 Performance Standards** BA shall provide the Interconnection and unbundled Network Elements contemplated hereunder in accordance with the performance standards set forth in Section 251(c) of the Act and the FCC Regulations, in particular the rules set forth in 47 Code of Federal Regulations §§ 51.305(a)(3) to (a)(5), 51.311(a) to (c), and 51.313(b). For purposes of this Agreement, the Parties agree that BA shall be deemed to meet such performance standards if it meets the time intervals set forth in Schedule 27.1 for (i) ULL Installation and INP Installation in at least eighty percent (80%) of the covered instances, and (ii) Out-of-Service Repairs in at least seventy percent (70%) of the covered instances. At such time as BA develops performance standards for unbundled Switching Elements, BA will provide Cox with reports thereof in accordance with subsection 27.2 below.

### **27.2 Performance Reporting**

**27.2.1** BA shall supply to Cox quarterly performance reports on BA's performance in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The reports shall contain the information described in, and be substantially in the format of, the documents attached hereto as Schedules 27.2A through 27.2D. The content of the reports, and the definitions of the rows and columns in the reports are set forth in Schedule 27.2E. The coverage of each report is set forth in its title, with the additional explanations set forth in Schedule 27.2.

27.2.2 Cox agrees that the performance information included in these reports is confidential and proprietary to BA, and shall be used by Cox solely for internal performance assessment purposes, for purposes of joint Cox and BA assessments of service performance, and for reporting to the Commission, the FCC, or courts of competent jurisdiction, under cover of an agreed-upon protective order. Cox shall not otherwise disclose this information to third parties.

**27.3 Performance Penalties** The question of what penalties or other action might be appropriate in any situation where Cox believes, based on a statistically significant number of reports described above, that Bell Atlantic is not complying with the performance standards referenced in subsection 27.1 above shall be resolved, in the first instance, through negotiations between the Parties and, failing successful negotiations, through the complaint processes of the Commission, the FCC, or a court of competent jurisdiction. BA agrees to join Cox in encouraging the Commission to develop expedited procedures for the resolution of any performance-related complaints.

## **28.0 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS; REGULATORY APPROVAL**

**28.1** Each Party represents and warrants that it is now and will remain in compliance with all Applicable Laws. Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party in writing of any governmental action that suspends, cancels, withdraws, limits, or otherwise materially affects its ability to perform its obligations hereunder.

**28.2** The Parties understand and agree that this Agreement will be filed with the Commission and may thereafter be filed with the FCC as an integral part of BA's application pursuant to Section 271(d) of the Act. The Parties covenant and agree that this Agreement is satisfactory to them as an agreement under Section 251 of the Act. Each Party covenants and agrees to fully support approval of this Agreement by the Commission or the FCC under Section 252 of the Act without modification. The Parties, however, reserve the right to seek regulatory relief and otherwise seek redress from each other regarding performance and implementation of this Agreement, including, without limitation, the conformance of this Agreement to the FCC Regulations as provided in subsection 28.3 below.

**28.3** The Parties recognize that the FCC has issued and may continue to issue the FCC Regulations implementing Sections 251, 252, and 271 of the Act that affect certain terms contained in this Agreement. In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained herein is inconsistent with any applicable rule contained in such FCC Regulations or, in BA's reasonable determination, affects BA's application pursuant to Section 271(d) of the Act, the Parties agree to make only the minimum revisions necessary to eliminate the inconsistency or amend the application-affecting provision(s). Such minimum revisions shall not be considered material, and shall not require further Commission approval (beyond any Commission approval required under Section 252(e) of the Act).

**28.4** In the event any Applicable Law other than the FCC Regulations requires modification of any material term(s) contained in this Agreement or if any of the definitions that are expressly taken from the Act and restated in Section 1 hereof are amended in any material fashion, either Party may require a renegotiation of the term(s) that require direct modification as well as of any term(s) that are reasonably affected thereby. If neither Party requests a renegotiation or if an Applicable Law requires modification of any non-material term(s), then the Parties agree to make only the minimum modifications necessary, and the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. For purposes of this subsection 28.4 and without limitation of any other modifications required by Applicable Laws, the Parties agree that any modification required by Applicable Laws (i) to the two-tier Reciprocal Call Termination compensation structure for the transport and termination of Local Traffic described in Exhibit A, or (ii) that affects either Party's receipt of reciprocal compensation for the transport and termination of Local Traffic, shall be deemed to be a modification of a material term that requires immediate good faith renegotiation between the Parties. Until such renegotiation results in a new agreement or an amendment to this Agreement between the Parties, the Parties agree that (a) in the case of (i) above, they will pay each other appropriate transport charges in addition to the usual call termination charge for Local Traffic that it delivers to the other Party's Local Serving Wire Center, provided each Party continues to offer the option of delivering Local Traffic to another IP in the LATA at the usual call termination charge only, and (b) in the case of (ii) above, the Party whose receipt of reciprocal compensation is affected shall not be obligated to pay the other Party reciprocal compensation for the other Party's transport and termination of the same kind of Local Traffic delivered by the affected Party in excess of what the affected Party is permitted to receive and retain.

## **29.0 MISCELLANEOUS**

### **29.1 Authorization**

29.1.1 BA is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform the obligations hereunder.

29.1.2 Cox is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform its obligations hereunder.

**29.2 Independent Contractor** Each Party shall perform services hereunder as an independent contractor and nothing herein shall be construed as creating any other relationship between the Parties. Each Party and each Party's contractor shall be solely responsible for the withholding or payment of all applicable federal, state and local income taxes, social security taxes and other payroll taxes with respect to their employees, as well as any taxes, contributions or other obligations imposed by applicable state unemployment or workers' compensation acts. Each Party has sole authority and responsibility to hire, fire and otherwise control its employees.

**29.3 Force Majeure** Neither Party shall be responsible for delays or failures in performance resulting from acts or occurrences beyond the reasonable control of such Party, regardless of whether such delays or failures in performance were foreseen or foreseeable as of the date of this Agreement, including, without limitation: adverse weather conditions, fire, explosion, power failure, acts of God, war, revolution, civil commotion, or acts of public enemies; any law, order, regulation, ordinance or requirement of any government or legal body; or labor unrest, including, without limitation, strikes, slowdowns, picketing or boycotts; or delays caused by the other Party or by other service or equipment vendors; or any other circumstances beyond the Party's reasonable control. In such event, the affected Party shall, upon giving prompt notice to the other Party, be excused from such performance on a day-to-day basis to the extent of such interferences (and the other Party shall likewise be excused from performance of its obligations on a day-to-day basis to the extent such Party's obligations relate to the performance so interfered with). The affected Party shall use its best efforts to avoid or remove the cause(s) of non-performance and both Parties shall proceed to perform with dispatch once the cause(s) are removed or cease.

#### **29.4 Confidentiality**

29.4.1 All information, including but not limited to specification, microfilm, photocopies, magnetic disks, magnetic tapes, drawings, sketches, models, samples, tools, technical information, data, employee records, maps, financial reports, and market data, (i) furnished by one Party to the other Party dealing with customer specific, facility specific, or usage specific information, other than customer information communicated for the purpose of publication or directory database inclusion, or (ii) in written, graphic, electromagnetic, or other tangible form and marked at the time of delivery as "Confidential" or "Proprietary," or (iii) communicated orally and declared to the receiving Party at the time of delivery, or by written notice given to the receiving Party within ten (10) days after delivery, to be "Confidential" or "Proprietary" (collectively referred to as "Proprietary Information"), shall remain the property of the disclosing Party.

29.4.2 Each Party shall keep all of the other Party's Proprietary Information confidential in the same manner it holds its own Proprietary Information confidential (which in all cases shall be no less than reasonable) and shall use the other Party's Proprietary Information only for performing the covenants contained in this Agreement. Neither Party shall use the other Party's Proprietary Information for any other purpose except upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the Parties in writing.

29.4.3 Unless otherwise agreed, the obligations of confidentiality and non-use set forth in this Agreement do not apply to such Proprietary Information that:

(a) was, at the time of receipt, already known to the receiving Party free of any obligation to keep it confidential as evidenced by written records prepared prior to delivery by the disclosing Party; or

(b) is or becomes publicly known through no wrongful act of the receiving Party; or

(c) is rightfully received from a third person having no direct or indirect secrecy or confidentiality obligation to the disclosing Party with respect to such information; or

(d) is independently developed by an employee, agent, or contractor of the receiving Party that is not involved in any manner with the provision of services pursuant to this Agreement and does not have any direct or indirect access to the Proprietary Information; or

(e) is approved for release by written authorization of the disclosing Party; or

(f) is required to be made public by the receiving Party pursuant to applicable law or regulation, provided that the receiving Party shall give sufficient notice of the requirement to the disclosing Party to enable the disclosing Party to seek protective orders.

29.4.4 Upon request by the disclosing Party, the receiving Party shall return all tangible copies of Proprietary Information, whether written, graphic or otherwise, except that the receiving Party may retain one copy for archival purposes only.

29.4.5 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the provisions of this subsection 29.4 shall apply to all Proprietary Information furnished by either Party to the other in furtherance of the purpose of this Agreement, even if furnished before the Effective Date.

**29.5 Choice of Law** The construction, interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, except for its conflicts of laws provisions. In addition, insofar as and to the extent federal law may apply, federal law will control.

## **29.6 Taxes**

29.6.1 In General. With respect to any purchase hereunder of services, facilities or arrangements, if any federal, state or local tax, fee, surcharge or other tax-like charge (a "Tax") is required or permitted by Applicable Law to be collected from the purchasing Party by the providing Party, then (i) the providing Party shall properly bill the purchasing Party for such Tax, (ii) the purchasing Party shall timely remit such Tax to the providing Party and (iii) the providing Party shall timely remit such collected Tax to the applicable taxing authority.

29.6.2 Taxes Imposed on the Providing Party With respect to any purchase hereunder of services, facilities or arrangements, if any federal, state or local Tax is imposed by Applicable Law on the receipts of the providing Party, which Law permits the providing Party to exclude certain receipts received from sales for resale to a public utility, distributor, telephone company, local exchange carrier, telecommunications company or other communications company ("Telecommunications Company"), such exclusion being based solely on the fact that the purchasing Party is also subject to a tax based upon receipts ("Receipts Tax"), then the purchasing Party (i) shall provide the providing Party with notice in writing in accordance with

subsection 29.6.6 of this Agreement of its intent to pay the Receipts Tax and (ii) shall timely pay the Receipts Tax to the applicable tax authority.

**29.6.3 Taxes Imposed on Customers** With respect to any purchase hereunder of services, facilities or arrangements that are resold to a third party, if any federal, state or local Tax is imposed by Applicable Law on the subscriber, end-user, Customer or ultimate consumer ("Subscriber") in connection with any such purchase, which a Telecommunications Company is required to impose and/or collect from a Subscriber, then the purchasing Party (i) shall be required to impose and/or collect such Tax from the Subscriber and (ii) shall timely remit such Tax to the applicable taxing authority.

**29.6.4 Liability for Uncollected Tax, Interest and Penalty** If the providing Party has not received an exemption certificate and fails to collect any Tax as required by subsection 29.6.1, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, (i) the purchasing Party shall remain liable for such uncollected Tax and (ii) the providing Party shall be liable for any interest assessed thereon and any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by such authority. If the providing Party properly bills the purchasing Party for any Tax but the purchasing Party fails to remit such Tax to the providing Party as required by subsection 29.6.1, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, the purchasing Party shall be liable for such uncollected Tax and any interest assessed thereon, as well as any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by the applicable taxing authority. If the providing Party does not collect any Tax as required by subsection 29.6.1 because the purchasing Party has provided such providing Party with an exemption certificate that is later found to be inadequate by a taxing authority, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, the purchasing Party shall be liable for such uncollected Tax and any interest assessed thereon, as well as any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by the applicable taxing authority. If the purchasing Party fails to pay the Receipts Tax as required by subsection 29.6.2, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, (x) the providing Party shall be liable for any Tax imposed on its receipts and (y) the purchasing Party shall be liable for any interest assessed thereon and any penalty assessed upon the providing Party with respect to such Tax by such authority. If the purchasing Party fails to impose and/or collect any Tax from Subscribers as required by subsection 29.6.3, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, the purchasing Party shall remain liable for such uncollected Tax and any interest assessed thereon, as well as any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by the applicable taxing authority. With respect to any Tax that the purchasing Party has agreed to pay, or is required to impose on and/or collect from Subscribers, the purchasing Party agrees to indemnify and hold the providing Party harmless on an after-tax basis for any costs incurred by the providing Party as a result of actions taken by the applicable taxing authority to recover the Tax from the providing Party due to the failure of the purchasing Party to timely pay, or collect and timely remit, such Tax to such authority. In the event either Party is audited by a taxing authority, the other Party agrees to cooperate fully with the Party being audited in order to respond to any audit inquiries in a proper and timely manner so that the audit and/or any resulting controversy may be resolved expeditiously.

29.6.5 Tax Exemptions and Exemption Certificates If Applicable Law clearly exempts a purchase hereunder from a Tax, and if such Law also provides an exemption procedure, such as an exemption-certificate requirement, then, if the purchasing Party complies with such procedure, the providing Party shall not collect such Tax during the effective period of such exemption. Such exemption shall be effective upon receipt of the exemption certificate or affidavit in accordance with the terms set forth in subsection 29.6.6. If Applicable Law clearly exempts a purchase hereunder from a Tax, but does not also provide an exemption procedure, then the providing Party shall not collect such Tax if the purchasing Party (i) furnishes the providing Party with a letter signed by an officer requesting such an exemption and citing the provision in the Law which clearly allows such exemption and (ii) supplies the providing Party with an indemnification agreement, reasonably acceptable to the providing Party (e.g., an agreement commonly used in the industry), which holds the providing Party harmless on an after-tax basis with respect to its forbearing to collect such Tax.

29.6.6 Notices for Purposes of this Subsection 29.6 All notices, affidavits, exemption-certificates or other communications required or permitted to be given by either Party to the other, for purposes of this subsection 29.6, shall be made in writing and shall be delivered in person or sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or registered mail, or a courier service providing proof of service, and sent to the addressees set forth in subsection 29.10 as well as to the following:

To Bell Atlantic:	Tax Administration Bell Atlantic Network Services, Inc. 1717 Arch Street 30th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103
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To Cox:	Mr. Greg Cox Cox Communications, Inc. 1400 Lake Hearn Drive, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30319
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Either Party may from time to time designate another address or other addressees by giving notice in accordance with the terms of this subsection 29.6. Any notice or other communication shall be deemed to be given when received.

**29.7 Assignment.** Either Party may assign this Agreement or any of its rights or obligations hereunder to a third party, with the other Party's prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld upon the provision of reasonable evidence by the proposed assignee that it has the resources, ability, and authority to provide satisfactory performance under this Agreement. Any assignment or delegation in violation of this subsection 29.7 shall be void and ineffective and constitute a default of this Agreement. No consent will be required in the event of assignment to a parent owning a majority of the Party, or a majority owned subsidiary of the Party, provided that such assignment shall not relieve the assigning Party of its obligations hereunder unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.



## **29.8 Billing and Payment; Disputed Amounts.**

29.8.1 Except as may otherwise be provided in this Agreement, each Party shall submit on a monthly basis an itemized statement of charges incurred by the other Party during the preceding month(s) for services rendered hereunder. Payment of billed amounts under this Agreement, whether billed on a monthly basis or as otherwise provided herein, shall be due, in immediately available U.S. funds, within thirty (30) days of the date of such statement.

29.8.2 Although it is the intent of both Parties to submit timely and accurate statements of charges, failure by either Party to present statements to the other Party in a timely manner shall not constitute a breach or default, or a waiver of the right to payment of the incurred charges, by the billing Party under this Agreement, and the billed Party shall not be entitled to dispute the billing Party's statement(s) based on such Party's failure to submit them in a timely fashion.

29.8.3 If any portion of an amount due to a Party (the "Billing Party") under this Agreement is subject to a bona fide dispute between the Parties, the Party billed (the "Non-Paying Party") shall within sixty (60) days of its receipt of the invoice containing such disputed amount give notice to the Billing Party of the amounts it disputes ("Disputed Amounts") and include in such notice the specific details and reasons for disputing each item. The Non-Paying Party shall pay when due (i) all undisputed amounts to the Billing Party and (ii) the Disputed Amount up to the higher of \$10,000 or 50% of the Disputed Amount through obtaining a bond, letter of credit, or depositing the required amount into an interest bearing escrow account with, or obtained from (in the case of a bond or letter of credit), an entity agreeable to both Parties. The remaining balance of the Disputed Amount not covered by the above shall thereafter be paid, if appropriate, upon final determination of such dispute.

29.8.4 If the Parties are unable to resolve the issues related to the Disputed Amounts in the normal course of business within ninety (90) days after delivery to the Billing Party of notice of the Disputed Amounts, each of the Parties shall appoint a designated representative that has authority to settle the dispute and that is at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. The designated representatives shall meet as often as they reasonably deem necessary in order to discuss the dispute and negotiate in good faith in an effort to resolve such dispute. The specific format for such discussions will be left to the discretion of the designated representatives, however all reasonable requests for relevant information made by one Party to the other Party shall be honored.

29.8.5 If the Parties are unable to resolve issues related to the Disputed Amounts within forty-five (45) days after the Parties' appointment of designated representatives pursuant to subsection 29.8.4, or if either Party fails to appoint a designated representative within forty five (45) days, then either Party may file a complaint with the Commission to resolve such issues or proceed with any other remedy pursuant to law or equity. The Commission may direct release

of any or all funds (including any accrued interest) in the escrow account, plus applicable late fees, to be paid to either Party.

29.8.6 The Parties agree that all negotiations pursuant to this subsection 29.8 shall remain confidential and shall be treated as compromise and settlement negotiations for purposes of the Federal Rules of Evidence and state rules of evidence.

29.8.7 Any undisputed amounts not paid when due shall accrue interest from the date such amounts were due at the lesser of (i) one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month or (ii) the highest rate of interest that may be charged under applicable law.

**29.9 Dispute Resolution** Any dispute between the Parties regarding the interpretation or enforcement of this Agreement or any of its terms shall be addressed by good faith negotiation between the Parties, in the first instance. Should such negotiations fail to resolve the dispute in a reasonable time, either Party may initiate an appropriate action in any regulatory or judicial forum of competent jurisdiction.

**29.10 Notices** Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, notices given by one Party to the other Party under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be (a) delivered personally, (b) delivered by express delivery service, (c) mailed, certified mail or first class U.S. mail postage prepaid, return receipt requested, or (d) delivered by telecopy to the following addresses of the Parties:

To Cox:

Director- State Regulatory Affairs  
Cox Communications, Inc.  
1400 Lake Hearn Drive, N.E.  
Atlanta, GA 30319

with a copy to:

VP and General Manager  
Cox Fibernet Commercial Services, Inc.  
4585 Village Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23502

To BA:

Director - Interconnection Services  
Bell Atlantic Network Services, Inc.  
1320 N. Courthouse Road  
9th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201  
Facsimile: 703/974-2183

with a copy to:

Vice President and General Counsel  
Bell Atlantic - Virginia, Inc.  
600 Main Street  
24th Floor  
Richmond, Virginia 23261  
Facsimile: 804/772-2143

or to such other address as either Party shall designate by proper notice. Notices will be deemed given as of the earlier of (i) the date of actual receipt, (ii) the next business day when notice is sent via express mail or personal delivery, (iii) three (3) days after mailing in the case of first class or certified U.S. mail, or (iv) on the date set forth on the confirmation in the case of telecopy.

#### **29.11 Section 252(i) Obligations**

29.11.1 To the extent required under Applicable Law, BA shall make available without unreasonable delay to Cox the option to avail itself of either (i) any entire effective agreement to which BA is a party and has been approved by the Commission pursuant to Section 252 of the Act or, (ii) the prices, terms and conditions of any such agreement that directly relate to any of the following duties:

- (a) Interconnection pursuant to § 251(c)(2) of the Act;
- (b) Unbundling pursuant to § 251(c)(3) of the Act;
- (c) Resale pursuant to § 251(c)(4) of the Act;
- (d) Collocation pursuant to § 251(c)(6) of the Act;
- (e) Number Portability pursuant to § 251(b)(2) of the Act;
- (f) Database Access pursuant to § 271(c)(2)(B)(x) of the Act;
- (g) Access to Rights of Way pursuant to § 251(b)(4) of the Act;
- (h) white pages pursuant to § 271(c)(2)(B)(viii) of the Act; or
- (i) any other individual interconnection, service or network element.

BA agrees to notify Cox on a quarterly basis via an “all users of access” letter or similar written notice of any such agreement once BA has filed it with the Commission for approval.

29.11.2 To the extent the exercise of the foregoing options requires a rearrangement of facilities by the providing Party, the opting Party shall be liable for the non-recurring charges associated therewith.

29.11.3 The Party electing to exercise such option shall do so by delivering written notice to the first Party. Upon receipt of said notice by the first Party, the Parties shall amend this Agreement to provide the same rates, terms and conditions to the notifying Party for the remaining term of this Agreement; provided, however, that the Party exercising its option under this subsection 29.11 must continue to provide the same services or arrangements to the first Party as required by this Agreement, subject either to the rates, terms, and conditions applicable to the first Party in its agreement with the third party or to the rates, terms, and conditions of this Agreement, whichever is more favorable to the first Party in its sole determination.

29.11.4 BA represents and warrants that, as of the date of this Agreement, it has not entered into any comparable Interconnection agreement with any other CLEC in BA’s service territory that is significantly more favorable than the terms contained herein. BA makes no warranty or representation with respect to its Interconnection arrangements with its affiliates or ITCs.

**29.12 Joint Work Product** This Agreement is the joint work product of the Parties and has been negotiated by the Parties and their respective counsel and shall be fairly interpreted in accordance with its terms and, in the event of any ambiguities, no inferences shall be drawn against either Party.

**29.13 No Third Party Beneficiaries; Disclaimer of Agency** This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties and their permitted assigns, and nothing herein express or implied shall create or be construed to create any third-party beneficiary rights hereunder. Except for provisions herein expressly authorizing a Party to act for another, nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a Party as a legal representative or agent of the other Party, nor shall a Party have the right or authority to assume, create or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, express or implied, against or in the name or on behalf of the other Party unless otherwise expressly permitted by such other Party. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, no Party undertakes to perform any obligation of the other Party, whether regulatory or contractual, or to assume any responsibility for the management of the other Party's business.

#### **29.14 No License**

29.14.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as the grant of a license, either express or implied, with respect to any patent, copyright, trademark, trade name, trade secret or any other proprietary or intellectual property now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by either Party. Neither Party may use any patent, copyrightable materials, trademark, trade name,

trade secret or other intellectual property right of the other Party except in accordance with the terms of a separate license agreement between the Parties granting such rights.

29.14.2 Neither Party shall have any obligation to defend, indemnify or hold harmless, or acquire any license or right for the benefit of, or owe any other obligation or have any liability to, the other Party or its customers based on or arising from any claim, demand, or proceeding by any third party alleging or asserting that the use of any circuit, apparatus, or system, or the use of any software, or the performance of any service or method, or the provision of any facilities by either Party under this Agreement, alone or in combination with that of the other Party, constitutes direct, vicarious or contributory infringement or inducement to infringe, misuse or misappropriation of any patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, or any other proprietary or intellectual property right of any Party or third party. Each Party, however, shall offer to the other reasonable cooperation and assistance in the defense of any such claim.

29.14.3 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS AGREEMENT, THE PARTIES AGREE THAT NEITHER PARTY HAS MADE, AND THAT THERE DOES NOT EXIST, ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, THAT THE USE BY THE PARTIES OF THE OTHER'S FACILITIES, ARRANGEMENTS, OR SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT GIVE RISE TO A CLAIM BY ANY THIRD PARTY OF INFRINGEMENT, MISUSE, OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF ANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT OF SUCH THIRD PARTY.

**29.15 Technology Upgrades** Nothing in this Agreement shall limit BA's ability to upgrade its network through the incorporation of new equipment, new software or otherwise. BA shall provide Cox written notice at least ninety (90) days prior to the incorporation of any such upgrades in BA's network that will materially affect Cox's service, and shall exercise reasonable efforts to provide at least one hundred eighty (180) days notice where practicable. In addition, BA shall comply with the FCC Network Disclosure rules set forth in the FCC Regulations to the extent applicable. Cox shall be solely responsible for the cost and effort of accommodating such changes in its own network.

**29.16 Survival** The Parties' obligations under this Agreement which by their nature are intended to continue beyond the termination or expiration of this Agreement shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

**29.17 Entire Agreement** The terms contained in this Agreement and any Schedules, Exhibits, tariffs and other documents or instruments referred to herein, which are incorporated into this Agreement by this reference, constitute the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, superseding all prior understandings, proposals and other communications, oral or written. Neither Party shall be bound by any preprinted terms additional to or different from those in this Agreement that may appear subsequently in the other Party's form documents, purchase orders, quotations, acknowledgments, invoices or other communications.

**29.18 Counterparts** This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

**29.19 Modification, Amendment, Supplement, or Waiver** No modification, amendment, supplement to, or waiver of the Agreement or any of its provisions shall be effective and binding upon the Parties unless it is made in writing and duly signed by the Parties. A failure or delay of either Party to enforce any of the provisions hereof, to exercise any option which is herein provided, or to require performance of any of the provisions hereof shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions or options.

**29.20 Successors and Assigns** This Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective legal successors and permitted assigns.

**29.21 Publicity** Neither Party shall use the name of the other Party in connection with this Agreement in a press release or statement without the prior consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

**29.22 Lease of BA Facilities** BA shall provide Cox with access to BA's roofs and riser conduits to the same extent and substantially on the same terms as BA makes such roofs and riser conduits available to third parties. Any such access shall be in accordance with the terms of BA's then prevailing lease or license agreement. It is BA's current policy to lease such facilities to third parties to the extent they are available and space permits.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed as of this 12th day of February, 1997.

COX FIBERNET COMMERCIAL  
SERVICES, INC.

BELL ATLANTIC-  
VIRGINIA, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

COX FIBERNET ACCESS  
SERVICES, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_